

CLAIMS

1. Viral particle consisting of structural elements not derived from an alphavirus and containing an alphavirus-derived vector made replication-defective by deletion, or replacement with at least one transgene, of the structural genes, **characterized** in that the structural elements of said particle are not encoded by the genome of the alphavirus-derived vector.  
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2. Viral particle according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that the structural elements correspond to the VSV-G envelope protein alone.  
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3. Viral particle according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that the structural elements correspond to the structural proteins of a retrovirus.  
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4. Particle according to one of Claims 1 to 3, **characterized** in that the alphavirus is a Semliki forest virus.  
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5. Particle according to one of Claims 1 to 4, **characterized** in that the genome of the alphavirus-derived vector contains the extended packaging sequence of MLV vectors.  
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6. Particle according to one of Claims 1 to 5, **characterized** in that the genome of the alphavirus-derived vector is devoid of psi sequence.  
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7. Particle according to one of Claims 1 to 6, **characterized** in that the genome of the alphavirus-derived vector comprises a 5'-positioned eukaryotic promoter.  
8. Particle according to one of Claims 1 to 7, **characterized** in that the alphavirus-derived vector contains a mutated p26S promoter.

9. Use of the viral particle that is the subject of one of Claims 1 to 8, for infecting a eukaryotic cell *in vitro*.

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10. Pharmaceutical composition comprising the viral particle that is the subject of one of Claims 1 to 8.

10 11. Use of the viral particle that is the subject of one of Claims 1 to 8, for producing a medicinal product for use in the treatment of cancer.

15 12. Method for obtaining viral particles consisting of structural elements not derived from an alphavirus and containing an alphavirus-derived vector made replication-defective by deletion, or replacement with at least one transgene, of the structural genes, consisting:

20 - in expressing in *trans*, in a cell line, the genes encoding the structural elements not derived from the alphavirus and the alphavirus-derived vector,  
- in recovering the viral particles present in the cell culture supernatant.

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13. Method according to Claim 12, **characterized** in that the structural elements correspond to the VSV-G envelope protein.

30 14. Method according to Claim 13, **characterized** in that the expression in *trans* is obtained by cotransfection of a cell line with the vector for expressing the VSV-G envelope and the alphavirus-derived vector, the cotransfection being carried out in 35 two distinct steps, respectively the transfection of the line with the vector expressing the VSV-G envelope gene, and then a second transfection with the alphavirus-derived vector.

15. Method according to Claim 14, **characterized** in  
that the transfected cell line is a 293T cell line.

16. Method according to Claim 12, **characterized** in  
5 that the structural elements correspond to the  
structural proteins of a retrovirus.

17. Method according to Claim 16, **characterized** in  
that the expression in *trans* is obtained by  
10 transfection of an encapsidation cell line, that  
produces replication-defective retroviruses, with the  
alphavirus-derived vector.

18. Method according to Claim 17, **characterized** in  
15 that the encapsidation cell line is obtained by stable  
transfection of a cell line with a first viral element  
expressing the retroviral *GAG* and *POL* genes and a  
second viral element expressing the retroviral *ENV*  
gene.

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19. Method according to Claim 16, **characterized** in  
that the expression in *trans* is obtained by triple  
transfection of a 293T cell line by introduction of a  
first viral element expressing the retroviral *GAG* and  
25 *POL* genes, of a second viral element expressing the  
retroviral *ENV* gene and of the alphavirus-derived  
vector.

20. Method according to one of Claims 12 to 19,  
30 **characterized** in that the alphavirus is a Semliki  
forest virus.

21. Method according to one of Claims 12 to 20,  
**characterized** in that the genome of the alphavirus-  
35 derived vector contains the extended packaging sequence  
of MLV vectors.

22. Method according to one of Claims 12 to 21,  
**characterized** in that the genome of the alphavirus-  
derived vector is devoid of psi sequence.
- 5 23. Method according to one of Claims 12 to 22,  
**characterized** in that the genome of the alphavirus-  
derived vector comprises a 5'-positioned eukaryotic  
promoter.
- 10 24. Method according to one of Claims 12 to 23,  
**characterized** in that the alphavirus-derived vector  
contains a mutated p26S promoter.
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